

In the specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 2 as follows:

This application is a continuation-in-part of ~~[[US]]~~ U.S. Ser. Serial No. 09/963,812, entitled "Method And System For Generating Revenue In A Peer-To-Peer File Delivery Network", filed on Sep. 26, 2001 and ~~[[US]]~~ U.S. Ser. Serial No. 60/277,787, filed on Mar. 21, 2001, both assigned to the assignee of the present application.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 19 as follows:

Gaining access to such centralized content, however, is becoming increasingly difficult due to growing Internet congestion, limited bandwidth, and increasing file sizes (especially for media rich content). Traditional Internet technologies for distributing content, such as e-mail, streaming media, and FTP, have proven inadequate. E-mail is inadequate because due to the number of email messages and attachments passing through email servers, restrictions are placed on the sizes of emails that ~~restrict~~ ~~restricts~~ what can be sent as attachments. E-mail also has security issues. PGP encryption is available for securing e-mails, but is not widely adopted.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 6 as follows:

Streaming media has the disadvantages of not working with all file types and is expensive because providers must purchase different software for the various streaming media standards. Streaming media also has not proven to be a reliable transfer method. ~~And~~ FTP file transfers also ~~have~~ ~~has~~ disadvantages, which include being technically challenging to most users, and suffering from inefficient file transfers. There are other solutions for distributing content, but they are usually proprietary and do not scale well.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 1 as follows:

A further problem with distributing content is that businesses have been unwilling to sell their content on the Internet because of a lack of security, and there is no efficient payment mechanism for small transactions (e.g., less than \$10). Consequently, consumers do not have an adequate ~~inadequate~~ mechanism for efficiently finding and buying digital items, especially those that would be sold for a minor fee.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 6 as follows:

In a further aspect of the present invention, the content owner 14 may also monitor and dynamically change the retail price and reseller commission for their files in real-time. The digital marketplace 10 links the download activities of the producer's files to the producer's account, so the producer may log-in and monitor who is downloading which files and at what costs. While monitoring the download activity of his films, the publisher notices that consumer demand is higher than expected, so he may decide that the consumers 16 should [[to]] pay more to download the films. The producer may also decide that he is paying the resellers too much to distribute the films, and wants to keep more of the retail price for himself. Therefore, the producer would raise the retail price of the films and lower the reseller commissions, and the changes would take place in real-time.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 20, line 19 as follows:

If a firewall separates the publishing client node 68 from the receiving client node, then the server node 69 acts as a proxy for the receiving client node 68 and the file is sent through the server node 69 in step 128. In a preferred embodiment, any node in the network may serve as a proxy for a firewall-protected node, as described in U.S. patent application 67 Ser. No. 09/773,314 _____, entitled "Method And System For Facilitating File Access From Firewall-Protected Client nodes In A Peer-To-Peer Network, filed on Jan. 31, 2001, and hereby incorporated by reference.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 21, line 14 as follows:

The public key is used to decrypt the digital signature 90 in the fingerprint, and a new bitstream ID is generated and compared with the bitstream ID 84 in the fingerprint in step 182. If the digital signature is successfully decrypted and the two bitstream ID's match, then the file is authenticated in step 133. In the embodiment where the bitstream ID is encrypted, the encrypted bitstream ID in the fingerprint must be decrypted with the public key before the comparison. Fingerprinting files 12 as described herein allows the receiving node to determine the authenticity of both the file and the publisher publisher. ~~This doesn't matter much anymore. If you want to add that we can/could do it, that's fine.~~

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 23, line 5 as follows:

According to the present invention, to deliver a particular file to a subscribing client node, the server node 69 locates the closest client node 68 containing the file, and the file is transferred directly from that client to the subscribing client node 68 in step 150. Marketing [[file]] files may be delivered in the same manner. As described above, the closest client node 68 is determined using factors including geographic location, bandwidth speed, and current network traffic. Once the file has been downloaded to the subscribing client node, the file may then be hosted from that client node 68 for other subscribing client nodes 68.